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Assam Baptist Missionary  
Conference  
Report : American Baptist  
Foreign Mission  
Society and Woman's American





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*A. J. Smith*  
**American Baptist Foreign  
Mission Society**

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**Assam Baptist  
Missionary Conference  
Report**  
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**TWENTIETH SESSION**

**Golaghat, Assam,**

**December 7—14**

**1922.**

## List of Missionaries

### Present—52.

Allen, Rev. W. K.  
Blakely, Miss A. V.  
Blanc, Mr. C. E.  
Blanc, Mrs. C. E.  
Boggs, Rev. S. A. D.  
Bond, Miss E. C.  
Bowers, Rev. A. C.  
Cheeseman, Miss E. D.  
Christenson, Miss E. V.  
Ewing, Rev. R. H.  
Ewing, Mrs. R. H.  
Fielder, Mr. C. G.  
Firth, Rev. John.  
Firth, Mrs. John.  
Geisenhener, Miss A. M.  
Harding, Rev. F. W.  
Harding, Mrs. F. W.  
Hay, Miss E. E.  
Holmes, Miss E. M.  
Hutton, Rev. W. R.  
Hutton, Mrs. W. R.  
Lewison, Miss R. G.  
Long, Miss A. E.  
Marvin, Miss M. M.  
Masales, Miss E. A.  
Mason, Rev. M. C., D.D.

Mason, Mrs. M. C.  
Nichols, Miss E. E.  
Nichols, Miss M. A.  
Paul, Miss Ruth.  
Pettigrew, Rev. William.  
Pettigrew, Mrs. William.  
Selander, Rev. John.  
Selander, Mrs. John.  
Stevenson, Miss E. M.  
Stever, Miss E. M.  
Supplee, Rev. G. W.  
Supplee, Mrs. G. W.  
Swanson, Rev. O. L.  
Swanson, Mrs. O. L.  
Sword, Rev. V. H.  
Sword, Mrs. V. H.  
Tait, Miss Marian.  
Tanquist, Rev. J. E.  
Tanquist, Mrs. J. E.  
Tuttle, Rev. A. J.  
Tuttle, Mrs. A. J.  
Witter, Rev. W. E., D.D.  
Witter, Mrs. W. E.  
Wright, Miss C. A.  
Wyatt, Rev. H. O.  
Wyatt, Mrs. H. O.

### Absent (on field)—18.

Ahlquist, J. A., M.D.  
Ahlquist, Mrs. J. A.  
Allen, Mrs. W. K.  
Bailey, Rev. J. R., M.D.  
Bailey, Mrs. J. R.  
Bowers, Mrs. A. C.  
Crisenberry, Miss E. E.  
Crozier, Rev. G. G., M.D.  
Crozier, Mrs. G. G.

Fielder, Mrs. C. G.  
Kampfer, Rev. G. R.  
Phillips, Rev. W. A.  
Phillips, Mrs. W. A.  
Rivenburg, Rev. S. W., M.D.  
Rivenburg, Mrs. S. W.  
Stephen, Rev. A. E.  
Stephen, Mrs. A. E.  
Wilson, Miss Isabel.

### Absent (on furlough)—23

Boggs, Mrs. S. A. D.  
Carvell, Rev. J. M.  
Carvell, Mrs. J. M.  
Doe, Miss F. H.  
Dowd, Rev. W. F.  
Dowd, Mrs. W. F.  
Dring, Rev. William.  
Dring, Mrs. William.  
Holbrook, Miss L. M.  
Kampfer, Mrs. G. R.  
Kirby, Rev. H. W., M.D.  
Kirby, Mrs. H. W.

Longwell, Rev. R. B.  
Longwell, Mrs. R. B.  
Mather, Mr. A. K.  
Mather, Mrs. A. K.  
Moore, Rev. P. E.  
Moore, Mrs. P. E.  
Paul, Rev. Joseph.  
Paul, Mrs. Joseph.  
Tilden, Rev. C. H.  
Tilden, Mrs. C. H.  
Vickland, Miss E. E.



*A. J. Lunt*  
**American Baptist Foreign  
Mission Society**

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**Assam Baptist  
Missionary Conference  
Report**

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**TWENTIETH SESSION**

**Golaghat, Assam,**

**December 7—14**

**1922.**

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# CONFERENCE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

SESSION, DECEMBER 7-14, 1922.

<i>President</i>	...	...	...	...	Mr. Harding.
<i>Vice-President</i>	...	...	...	...	Mr. Hutton.
<i>Mission Secretary</i>	...	...	...	...	Mr. Tuttle.
<i>Mission Treasurer</i>	...	...	...	...	Mr. Tuttle.
<i>Clerk</i>	...	...	...	...	Mr. Wyatt.
<i>Asst. Clerk</i>	...	...	...	...	Mr. Selander.
<i>Necrologist</i>	...	...	...	...	Miss Bond.
<i>Librarian</i>	...	...	...	...	Mrs. Stephen.

## Committees Elected by Conference :

### Reference Committee.

Mr. Harding.                      Mr. Swanson.                      Miss Geisenhener.

### Managing Committee, Jorhat Schools.

Term expiring 1923—Dr. Witter.                      Dr. Bailey.                      Mr. Hutton.

Term expiring 1924—Mr. Harding.                      Mr. Swanson.

## Committees Appointed by President :

### Committee on Arrangements.

Mr. Harding.                      Mr. Tuttle (Secretary).                      Mr. Hutton.

### Music Committee.

Mrs. Tuttle.                      Mrs. Fielder.                      Miss Marvin.

### Program Committee.

Mr. Hutton.                      Miss Cheeseman.                      Miss Hay.                      Mr. Swanson.

### Publicity Committee.

Dr. Witter.                      Mrs. Crozier.                      Mr. Wyatt.

### Time and Place of Next Session.

Mr. Stephen.                      Miss Crisenberry.                      Mr. Allen.

### Correspondent to Missionary Review.

Mrs. Mason.

## Committees Appointed by Reference Committee :

### Evangelistic Committee.

Miss Holmes.                      Mr. Bowers.                      Mr. Hutton.

### Educational Committee.

Mr. Pettigrew.                      Miss Crisenberry.                      Mr. Harding.

### Property Committee.

Mr. Swanson.                      Dr. Ahlquist.                      Mr. Hutton.                      Mr. Sword, *Ex officio*.

### Medical Committee.

Dr. Bailey.                      Dr. Ahlquist.                      Dr. Witter.

### Woman's Committee.

Miss Geisenhener.                      Miss Hay.                      Mrs. Tuttle.

### Assamese Literature Committee.

Mr. Swanson.                      Mr. Stephen.                      Mr. Hutton.                      Dr. Witter.                      Miss Long.

### Language Examination Committees.

#### ASSAMESE.

Miss Holmes.                      Miss Crisenberry.                      Mr. Kampfer.

#### GARO.

Miss Bond.                      Dr. Mason.

#### AO NAGA.

Dr. Bailey.                      Miss Stevenson.



# CONFERENCE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES.

TO SERVE UNTIL END OF NEXT CONFERENCE..

<i>President</i>	...	...	...	...	Mr. Boggs.
<i>Vice-President</i>	...	...	...	...	Mr. Harding.
<i>Mission Secretary</i>	...	...	...	...	Mr. Tuttle.
<i>Mission Treasurer</i>	...	...	...	...	Mr. Tuttle.
<i>Vice-Treasurer</i>	...	...	...	...	Mr. Stephen.
<i>Clerk</i>	...	...	...	...	Mr. Wyatt.
<i>Asst. Clerk</i>	...	...	...	...	Mr. Selander.
<i>Necrologist</i>	...	...	...	...	Mr. Firth.
<i>Librarian</i>	...	...	...	...	Mrs. Stephen.

**Committees Elected by Conference :**

## Reference Committee.

Mr. Harding.	Mr. Kampfer.	Miss Geisenhener.
	Alternates.	

Mr. Hutton.

Miss Hay.

## Managing Committee, Jorhat Schools.

Term expiring 1923—Dr. Bailey.

Mr. Hutton.

Term expiring 1924—Mr. Harding.

Mr. Swanson.

Representing Jorhat Management—Mr. Wyatt.

**Committees Appointed by President :**

## Time and Place of next Session.

Mr. Swanson.	Miss Wilson.	Mr. Ewing.
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## Committee on Arrangements.

Mr. Boggs.	Mr. Tuttle.	Mr. Bowers.
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## Program Committee.

Mr. Bowers.	Miss Holmes.	Miss Long.	Mr. Fielder.
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## Music Committee.

Mrs. Swanson.	Miss Lewison.	Miss Blakely.
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## Publicity Committee.

Mr. Harding.	Miss Paul.	Mr. Blanc.
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## Correspondent to Missionary Review.

Mrs. Mason.

**Committees Appointed by Reference Committee :**

## Evangelistic Committee.

Mr. Swanson.	Mr. Bowers.	Miss Holmes.
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## Educational Committee.

Mr. Pettigrew.	Miss Hay.	Mr. Harding.
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## Scholarship Funds

Term Expiring Winter of

1923-4	1924-5	1925-6	1926-7	1927-8
Mr. Tranquist	Miss Wright	Mr. Fielder	Mr. Wyatt	Miss Hay

## Property Committee.

Mr. Hutton.	Mr. Kampfer.	Mr. Stephen.	Mr. Sword, <i>Ex officio</i> .
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## Medical Committee.

Dr. Bailey.	Miss Stever.	Mr. Harding.
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## Woman's Committee.

Miss Geisenhener.	Miss Háy.	Mrs. Tuttle.
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## Assamese Literature Committee.

Mr. Swanson.	Mr. Boggs.	Miss Long.
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## Language Examination Committees.

### ASSAMESE.

Miss Holmes.	Miss Crisenberry.	Mr. Kampfer.
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### GARO.

Dr. Mason.	Mr. Harding.	Miss Wright.
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### ANGAMI NAGA.

Mr. Tanquist.

### AO NAGA.

Mrs. Bailey.	Miss Stevenson.
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**NOTE:** The Mission Secretary is, ex-officio, a member of all standing committees.

# **SPECIAL COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT NEXT SESSION**

## **REVISION OF CONSTITUTION.**

Mr. Pettigrew,

Mr. Bowers.

## **WORK AMONG GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.**

Mr. Fielder.

Miss Hay.

Mr. Hutton.

## **EXTENSION COURSES FOR INDIAN WORKERS.**

Mr. Boggs.

Mr. Hutton.

Mr. Harding.

Miss Long.

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT TREASURY.**

Mr. Tuttle.

Mr. Bowers.

Mr. Fielder.

## **TYPE PLAN FOR WOMAN'S SOCIETY BUNGALOW.**

Mr. Sword.

Mr. Blanc.

Miss Geisenhener.

## **PURCHASE OF LAND IN SHILLONG.**

Mr. Hutton.

Mr. Fielder.

Mr. Blanc.

Miss Holmes.

## **SENDING MISSION PUBLICATIONS TO AMERICA.**

Mr. Hutton.

Mrs. Witter.

Dr. Mason.

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## KEY TO CLASSIFICATION OF MINUTES.

(It will be noted that committee reports are included in the body of the minutes.)

- I. Churches (Indian) and Auxiliary Organizations.
- II. Comity and Co-operation.
- III. Conference Matters and Miscellaneous Committees.
- IV. Constitution.
- V. Correspondence.
- VI. Education.
- VII. Evangelism.
- VIII. Reference Committee.
- IX. Field Reports and Statistics.
- X. Financial Matters and Treasurer.
- XI. Government Relations.
- XII. Home Base.
- XIII. Industrial.
- XIV. Language Study.
- XV. Library.
- XVI. Literature and Bible Translation.
- XVII. Medical.
- XVIII. Mission Conferences, Councils, Organizations, etc.
- XIX. Needs and Occupation of Field.
- XX. Policies and Principles.
- XXI. Property Matters.
- XXII. Publicity.
- XXIII. Public Questions.
- XXIV. Secretary.
- XXV. Social Service.
- XXVI. Woman's Work, General.
- XXVII. Miscellaneous.

# ACTIONS OF CONFERENCE

Grouped by Subjects \*

Golaghat, December 7-14, 1922.

## I. Churches (Indian) and Auxiliary Organizations.

**Case 2521-22 Conf. Assumption of Responsibility and Self-support.**

RESOLVED: That in view of the recognized desirability of the early assumption of a larger measure of responsibility by our Indian churches, all missionaries be urged to give every aid to developments tending toward a deeper sense of responsibility and the assumption of self-support, and especially to the work of the All Assam Convention.

**Case 2522-22 Conf. Letter to Associations.**

Inasmuch as it is the purpose of this Conference to consider at its next session the question of placing more responsibility and power into the hands of the indigenous churches, and as we desire to inform the indigenous churches of our purpose, so as to secure their cooperation, to increase their interest and to influence them to assume during the present financial year a larger part in financing their work,

RESOLVED: That a communication be sent by this Conference to all Associations

a. Informing them of our desire that they assume larger responsibility in administering the work.

b. Informing them of our financial straits and requesting that they assume a larger part of the support of their own workers.

c. Requesting that, if possible, action be taken in their associations and that Secretary Tuttle be furnished with a copy of their resolutions, to be forwarded to the Chairman of the Program Committee.

(See also *III, Case 2524-22 Conf., Basis of Next Conference Program and XIX, Garo Association and Goalpara N.B.*)

**II. Comity and Cooperation.** (See *XVIII, Case 2556-22 Conf., Poona Resolutions.*)

**III. Conference Matters and Miscellaneous Committees.**

The President appointed the following committees:

Committee on Findings—Mr. Boggs, Miss Bond, Mr.

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\* This abbreviated form of report is issued for convenience and economy. A copy of the complete minutes, in chronological order, is to be found in the Mission Secretary's files.

Fielder. Committee on Printing Minutes—Mr. Fielder and Mr. Wyatt. Committee on Conference Attendance expenses—Mr. Stephen and Miss Geisenhener.

**Case 2523-22 Conf. Modification of Harvard Plan.**

As regards A. R. C. Case 2401, on Harvard Plan Modification, it was

**RESOLVED:** That this matter be referred to the Reference Committee with power, with the suggestion that in case of coolie transport the number be changed from eight to ten.

**Case 2524-22 Conf. Basis of Next Conference Program.**

Believing that Mr. Bowers' paper "Our Evangelists and Pastors.—Their Qualifications and Source" offers an excellent basis for the study of the problem of placing more responsibility and authority into the hands of the indigenous churches, and, there being insufficient time for such a study at this session of Conference, and in view of the supreme importance of the subject,

**RESOLVED:** That the matter be placed into the hands of the Program Committee with instructions so to arrange the program of the next session of Conference that the subject may be considered in all its phases with a view to definite and positive action looking toward the assumption of more responsibility for the work by the indigenous churches.

**Case 2525-22 Conf. Thanks to Hosts.**

**RESOLVED:** That we as a Conference express our sincere appreciation of the kindly and generous entertainment of the Golaghat missionaries, by a rising vote.

**Case 2526-22 Conf. Appreciation of Devotional Services.**

**RESOLVED:** That as a Conference we express our profound thanks to God for the deeply spiritual, timely and inspiring devotional hour messages brought to us by Mr. Fielder, and express the hope that these addresses may soon be published for the benefit of missionaries of our own and other denominations in many lands.

## **IV. Constitution.**

**Case 2527-22 Conf. Absentee Voting.**

**RESOLVED:** That paragraph 4 on page 12 of the booklet on Constitution and By-Laws be interpreted as not preventing members of the Conference absent on the field from voting by sending or mailing their votes.

**Case 2528-22 Conf. Committee on Revision of Constitution.**

**RESOLVED:** That a committee be appointed to make changes in the Constitution in conformity with the new ruling regarding language examination requirements.

The President appointed as this Committee :

Mr. Pettigrew and Mr. Bowers.

(For details see *XIV, Case 2554-22 Conf., Language Examination Requirements.*

## V. Correspondence.

## VI. Education.

### Case 2529-22 Conf. Establishment of Scholarship Funds.

In considering A. R. C. Case 2358 regarding Scholarship Funds, it was

**RESOLVED:** That (1) this Conference recommends that definite steps be taken by the Mission looking to the securing of money for two Scholarship funds for the education of boys and girls respectively, these funds to be used for aid to those pursuing education of secondary or higher grade.

(2) That these funds be kept separate and be in charge of one committee which shall not only pay or give orders to pay them, but also pass upon the merits of the applicants for assistance from such funds.

(3) That any missionary holding such funds be asked to make the same over to the said committee as a nucleus.

(4) That this whole question be referred to the Education Committee with the request that they report at this Conference session.

### Case 2530-22 Conf. Adoption of Report on Scholarship Funds.

The Education Committee made the following report :

The Committee on Scholarship Funds shall consist of five members, appointed by the Reference Committee, and its members shall, as far as possible, be chosen from the heads of the various educational institutions.

The duties of the Committee shall be :—

1. To take steps to receive the funds, one for boys and one for girls, for the purpose of meeting the expenses of students.
2. To consider the work of the Mission as a whole with respect to the need of workers with advanced training.
3. With the aid of fellow-missionaries, to select students who are promising and are considered worthy of advanced training.
4. To select the schools to which the students shall be sent.
5. To estimate the expenses of the students.
6. To disburse the funds.

**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Report of the Education Committee regarding Scholarship Funds.



The Committee appointed by the Reference Committee is as follows :—

Mr. Tanquist	Term Expires Winter of	1923-24
Miss Wright	„	1924-25
Mr. Fielder	„	1925-26
Mr. Wyatt	„	1926-27
Miss Hay	„	1927-28-Ed.]

**Case 2531-22 Conf. Committee on Adjustments at Jorhat Christian Schools.**

In consideration of matters relating to the Jorhat Schools, the following reports were given :

1. Mr. Allen, High School and Normal School.
2. Mr. Blanc, Industrial School.
3. Mr. Boggs, Bible School.
4. Mr. Wyatt, Hostel.
5. Miss Cheeseman, Commercial.

A vote of confidence and appreciation was given the missionaries conducting the work of the schools.

After this there was discussion which centered somewhat around the following points : (1) The number of missionaries needed, in which reference was made to the recommendation adopted by the Sibsagor Conference ; and (2) Limitation of the number of boys.

**RESOLVED :** That the Conference members of the Managing Committee of the Jorhat Christian Schools be a committee to go to Jorhat and study the situation, with power to act in regard to needed adjustments, including the Constitution.

**Case 2532-22 Conf. Co-option of Members of Jorhat Managing Committee.**

**RESOLVED :** That the Reference Committee co-opt members to take the place of missionary members of the Jorhat Christian Schools Managing Committee who cannot be present at the meeting to be held in Jorhat immediately after Conference.

**Case 2533-22 Conf. Co-option of Members of Educational Committee.**

**RESOLVED :** That in the absence of Miss Crisenberry, Miss Hay be asked to serve in her stead on the Educational Committee.

(For *Relation of Jorhat Schools to Mission Builder* see XIX, Case 2561-22 Conf.)

## VII. Evangelism.

There were papers or discussion on the following subjects :

“ Our Evangelists and Pastors—Their Qualifications and Source ”—Mr. Bowers.

"The Boarding Schools as an Evangelizing Agency"—Miss Crisenberry.

"Do we as Individuals do as much Personal Evangelistic Work as Possible?"—Mr. Hutton.

"What use, if any, should be made of Mission Funds for Education of Non-Christians?"—Miss Geisenhener.

"Present Work and Aim of Indian Churches"—Sjt. Comfort Goldsmith.

**Case 2534-22 Conf. Work among Students in Government High Schools.**

After a short statement by Mr. Fielder on "Opportunities for Evangelistic Work in Hostels for Government High Schools", it was

**RESOLVED:** That a Committee be appointed to consider the subject of "Opportunities for Evangelistic Work among Government High School Students," and to make definite recommendations to the next Conference.

The President appointed the following Committee: Mr. Fielder, Miss Hay, Mr. Hutton.

**Case 2535-22 Conf. Evangelistic Bands Recommended.**

**RESOLVED:** That we strongly recommend that on all fields where possible the plan of sending out evangelistic bands as practised on the Golaghat-Sibsagor field be followed by evangelistic missionaries.

**Case 2536-22 Conf. Extension Courses for Indian Workers.**

On the recommendation of the Findings Committee, it was

**RESOLVED:** That a committee be appointed to prepare a course of study for such Indian workers engaged in evangelistic and pastoral work as may not be able to attend the Bible Schools, and that examinations be given on these courses and certificates granted to those who pass.

The following were appointed: Mr. Boggs, Mr. Hutton, Mr. Harding, Miss Long.

**VIII. Reference Committee.**

The following action was taken at the request of the Reference Committee, who wished the desire of Conference expressed concerning the filling of any vacancies in the Committee.

**Case 2537-22 Conf. Alternates for Reference Committee.**

**RESOLVED:** That Mr. Hutton serve as alternate for the Reference Committee for the General Society and Miss Hay for the Woman's Society.

## IX. Field Reports and Statistics.

Reports were presented as follows :—

### A. General Work

#### *Evangelistic*

Tura	Mr. Harding
Goalpara N. B.	Mr. Bowers
Kamrup N. B.	Mr. Kampfer (read by Mr. Tuttle)
Mongoldai	Mr. Kampfer (read by Mr. Tuttle)
Darrang	Mr. Firth
North Lakhimpur	Mr. Firth
Gauhati Student Work	Mr. Fielder
Nowgong	Mr. Hutton
Tika	Mr. Hutton
Kangpokpi	Mr. Pettigrew
Kohima	Mr. Tanquist
Golaghat	Mr. Swanson
Sibsagor	Mr. Swanson
Sadiya	Dr. Witter, Mr. Selander

#### *Educational*

Tura	Mr. Harding
Goalpara N. B.	Mr. Bowers
Kamrup N. B.	Mr. Hutton for Mr. Kampfer
Mongoldai	Mr. Hutton for Mr. Kampfer
Gauhati	Mrs. Tuttle for Mr. and Mrs. Stephen
North Lakhimpur	Mr. Firth
Nowgong	Mr. Hutton
Kangpokpi	Mr. Pettigrew
Kohima	Dr. Rivenburg (read by Mr. Pettigrew.)
Golaghat	Mr. and Mrs. Swanson
Jorhat	Mr. Allen, Mr. Blanc, Mr. Boggs, Miss Cheeseman and Mr. Wyatt
Sadiya	Mr. Selander
Dibrugarh	Mr. Selander

#### *Literature*

Garo	Dr. Mason
Assamese	Dr. Witter

#### *Medical*

Kangpokpi	Mr. Pettigrew for Dr. Crozier
Jorhat	Mr. Wyatt
Golaghat	Mr. Wyatt

### B. Woman's Work

#### *Evangelistic*

Kamrup S. B.	Miss Holmes
Nowgong Hostel	Miss Hay

*Educational*

Tura	Miss Wright
Gauhati	Miss Geisenhener
Nowgong	Miss Hay
Golaghat	Miss May Nichols
Impur	Miss Stevenson
Golaghat Bible School	Miss Long

**X. Financial.****Case 2538-22 Conf. Joint Treasury and Business Office.**

On the matter of a Joint Treasury the following action was taken :

RESOLVED: 1. That this Conference places itself on record as being in favor of the general proposition of establishing a joint treasury and business office in Calcutta in cooperation with the Bengal-Orissa Mission.

2. That a Committee be appointed to study the matter in collaboration with a similar committee from the Bengal-Orissa Mission, with power to make recommendations to the Board of Managers through the Reference Committee.

3. That in case the establishment of this office appears feasible to the joint Committee, the negotiations be conducted with a view to putting the plan into operation at the beginning of the next fiscal year, if possible.

The President appointed the following Committee: Mr. Tuttle, Mr. Bowers, Mr. Fielder.

**Case 2539-22 Conf. Provision for Treasurership.**

The election of a Treasurer had been deferred until after action on the matter of a joint treasury. A letter from Treasurer Tuttle, tendering his resignation, was then read; also a resolution offered by the Reference Committee, as follows:—

“That the Reference Committee recommend that this Conference accept the resignation of Mr. Tuttle as Mission Treasurer and

“That after careful consideration they beg to suggest that the Conference nominate as his successor for the current year Mr. Stephen.

“That the Mission Secretary be asked to serve as Vice-Treasurer.”

RESOLVED: That we accept the resignation of Mr. Tuttle and recommend to the Board the appointment of Mr. Stephen as Mission Treasurer and that the Secretary act as Vice-Treasurer.

[When the above resolution was made known to Mr. Stephen, he felt that it will be impossible to comply without doing injustice to his field work, but at the request of the Reference

Committee consented to act as Vice-Treasurer, Mr. Tuttle continuing to serve as Treasurer (See A. R. C. Case 2453).—*Ed.*]

**Case 2540-22 Conf. Uniform Account Books.**

RESOLVED: That the Reference Committee be authorized to act with power in instituting uniform account books for the Assam Mission.

**Case 2541-22 Conf. Freight Allowance.**

Under "Matters referred by the Board," the matter of freight allowance was put into the hands of a Committee composed of Mr. Bowers, Mr. Boggs and Mrs. Tuttle, to report to Conference.

The Committee rendered the following report:

Inasmuch as we understand that, on account of some abuse, by a few missionaries, of the rules in regard to freight allowance, the Board considered wise to amend these rules (for amended rules see p. 3 of the *Messenger* for August 1922), and

Inasmuch as the very small amount of luggage for missionaries going on furlough will work hardship and heavy expense to all who may not secure one of the furnished mission houses,

We request that the Board alter the amount of freight allowed for missionaries going on furlough to one ship's ton for each full ticket and a half ton for a half ticket.

RESOLVED: That the report of the Committee regarding freight allowance for missionaries coming to and returning from the field be adopted. (See *XVII, Case 2553-22 Conf., Medical Allowances.*)

**Case 2542-22 Conf. Audit of Ex-Mission Builder's Books.**

RESOLVED: That the report of the Committee appointed to audit the books of Mr. Blanc, ex-Mission Builder, be adopted.

This report is as follows:

In response to the action of the Assam Mission Reference Committee we have made survey of the accounts of Mr. C. E. Blanc as Mission Builder. These accounts covering a period of about four years are shown on a balance sheet dated April 15, 1922, and represent an expenditure of Rs. 3,35,553-6-4, this sum being total expenditures plus inventories. Rs. 46,392-7-6 represents expenditures for hardware and timber stock, an inventory of which was taken by another committee and certified to by them. Rs. 75,725-3-2 represents amounts expended by others and is not within our survey. The amounts, therefore, which we endeavor to report upon are (1) the total of Column 3, or Rs. 1,80,437-11-8, and (2), that portion of Column 2, or Rs. 30,289-15-6, which was actually paid to Mission Builder by Mission Treasurer.



We have no way of checking receipts from Mission Treasurer and these must be verified by him.

We have checked the total expenditures for each of the buildings, the stock accounts and machinery accounts, and find them in accordance with the balance sheet. We have not checked the items making up the totals, because the records or vouchers have not been kept in a systematic manner, which makes it almost an impossibility and would in any case involve a good many days to put them in shape. A large number of vouchers are also missing because of making payment to coolies and other labor, in which no receipt was taken. You are aware of the difficulties of obtaining receipts from coolies and native workmen. If a voucher had been filed it would merely have been a receipt from the Mission Builder to himself. In these cases we feel the integrity of the missionary must be relied upon.

It was found that the book-keeper had twice debited the sum of Rs. 4,500 to the Tura School Plant appropriation when this sum should have been debited but once, therefore that portion of the balance sheet which reads, "Tura—School Plant—Expended by Mission Builder Rs. 29,511-4-0" should read as follows: "Tura—School Plant—Expended by Mission Builder Rs. 25,011-4-0." It will be seen that this appropriation has to its credit in the Property Pool a balance of Rs. 16,448-12-0 instead of Rs. 11,948-12-0 as shown.

It was also found that the cost of the Industrial Bungalow pukuri (Rs. 2,200), small bills of Rs. 1,800, and some other items, the total approximating Rs. 4,500, had not been cared for in the Property Committee's report. It will be recognized that the Rs. 4,500 (Approx.) previously not accounted for, cancels the Rs. 4,500 overcharge against the Tura appropriation, leaving the total of the balance sheet practically unchanged.

We are satisfied that the accounts of the Mission Builder represent an honest attempt to account for all funds placed in his care. While we do not approve of the method of accounting for expenditures, we truly believe that Mr. Blanc was sincere in his attempt to keep his accounts correctly and it, as is the case, there seems to be a weakness in the accounts, perhaps the greater part of the criticism should fall upon the Mission Conference, the Reference Committee, or the Property Committee for forcing him to begin new buildings while others were already in the course of construction. We must also recognize that Mr. Blanc at the same time, had to spend time in the operation of the shop and the purchase of materials. Thereby his attention was divided between manifold duties, making his work very complicated, especially for a man new to the country. It was impossible quickly to com-



plete a building and make account for the same. We recognize also the handicaps, such as incompetent and untrustworthy office help and unreliable workmen, under which he did his building, all of which directly contributed to the lack of a thorough and readily accessible system of book-keeping.

The Property Committee's letter and balance sheet as sent to Dr. Robbins on April 15, 1922 should be here appended to this report. [This report already sent to each missionary from Secretary-Treasurer's office.—Ed.]

The work of Mission Builder having been transferred from Mr. Blanc to Mr. Sword, we suggest the following method of adjusting the accounts between the two parties :—

(1) Mr. Blanc as Principal, Industrial Department, Jorhat Christian Schools, should place upon his books a credit in favor of the Mission Builder of Rs. 56,923-3-3 which is the total of the following items shown in the assets :—

Builder's hardware stock	...	Rs. 27,373-6-3
Builder's timber stock	...	„ 19,029-1-3
Bills receivable	...	„ 6,784-2-0
Cash	...	„ 3,736-9-9

---

Rs. 56,923-3-3

(2) Miss Cheeseman should pay the Mission Builder Rs. 5,448-12-5, as shown by statement of assets, or properly account for it if she is making expenditures on this account.

(3) The Principal, Industrial Department, Jorhat Christian Schools, should become owner of all hardware, timber stock, bills receivable, and cash in hand.

(4) The Principal, Industrial Department, Jorhat Christian Schools, should be given a credit for the sum of Rs. 1,623-4-5 as shown by the liabilities, as reserve for depreciation and doubtful accounts.

(5) Any materials supplied by the Principal, Industrial Department, Jorhat Christian Schools, on the order of the Mission Builder should be billed to the Mission Builder by the Industrial Department and after being approved and signed by the Mission Builder should be placed against the Mission Builder's credit on the Industrial Department's books.

(6) Any claims of Mr. Blanc covering items of payment between date of balance sheet and the present time should also be placed against the credit of the Mission Builder after being approved and signed by him or the Property committee.

(7) The Property Committee should see that proper credit is made to Mission Builder on the Mission Treasurer's books covering undrawn balance (cash) in the Property Pool.

(8) We believe that adjustments noted above would clear up the uncertainty of the accounts of the Property Pool and be a basis for starting a new method of accounting by the Mission Builder.

Jorhat, Assam,  
November 30, 1922.

Sd. V. G. Krause.  
Sd. H. Oswell Wyatt.

**Case 2543-22 Conf. Audit of Mission Builder's Books Referred.**

RESOLVED: That the auditing of the Builder's books from Apr. 15, to Oct. 31, 1923 be referred to the Committee of Reference for presentation to the Board, with power to act.

**Case 2544-22 Conf. Audit of Mission Treasurer's Books.**

RESOLVED: That we adopt the report of the Auditing Committee on the auditing of the Mission Treasurer's books for the two years ending Oct. 31, 1921.

*Report.*

The undersigned Auditing Committee recommended that the Mission Treasurer's books be audited by an accredited auditing firm. We have gone over the report submitted by Messrs. Lovelock and Lewes and accept it with the following remarks :

Under the heading of Disbursements to Missionaries, Schedule D, (two years), three items for which there are no receipts in the Treasurer's files, we can understand how under the existing circumstances no receipt could be obtained from Mr. Jackman for payments made to him and have seen Mr. Tuttle's correspondence to the Home Treasurer regarding the matter.

The item of Rs.17-4-0 to Miss Wilson was a draft sent to her after she went home on furlough and was acknowledged by Mr. Smith in his letter of September 29, 1920 to Mr. Tuttle. Miss Wilson did not cash the draft.

The item of Rs. 131-9-10 against Mr. Carvell should be Rs. 154, which was paid to Mr. Carvell but omitted from his yearly receipt. The difference between Rs. 154 and Rs. 131-9-10 is Rs. 22-6-2. Through error a receipt for Rs.23-7-0 which belongs in the year 1921-22 was included in this report of 1920-21. The discrepancy between the receipt for Rs.23-7-9 and Rs. 22-6-2 seems to be a mistake in the auditor's report, as the figures on the receipt in the auditor's own handwriting indicate this.

The correction in the cash book for the present year, 1921-22, regarding the item of Rs. 35,800 mentioned on page 2 of the report, has been noted.

On page 3 of the Auditor's Report, Schedule B, shown as "Mission Treasurer's Drafts," should have been "Home Treasurer's Drafts."

We recommend the payment of the bills of Messrs. Lovelock and Lewes for Rs. 750-, Mr. Tuttle's expenses of Rs. 156-13-6 and his helper's of Rs. 51-13-6, making a total of Rs. 958-11--  
Respectfully submitted,

Sd. Ella D. Cheeseman.

Sd. A. E. Stephen.

**Case 2545 22 Conf. Audit for Coming Year Referred.**

RESOLVED: That the matter of audit of the Mission Treasurer's books for the year ending Oct. 31, 1922 be referred to the Reference Committee.

**Case 2546-22 Conf. Use of Care-of-Compound Appropriations.**

A. R. C. Case 2400 was read, as follows :

Inasmuch as one of our younger missionaries has called the attention of the Reference Committee to the fact that mission funds for care of compound have been spent for private vegetable gardens, and inasmuch as there seems to be uncertainty in the minds of some as to what the care-of-compound appropriation is for,

RESOLVED: 1. That the attention of Conference members be called to the fact that the Care-of-Compound appropriation is given to missionaries for the care of compound, *i. e.* cutting grass, jungle, minor repairs on fences and buildings etc., and for these purposes only ; that it cannot be construed as being available for keeping either vegetable or flower gardens.

2. That in case work is done on vegetable or flower gardens the missionary for whom such work is done is expected to bear the expense of such gardening personally. Allowance may be made for what it would have cost to care for a garden plot, if it had remained in grass.

RESOLVED: That Conference adopt this resolution.

(*For Scholarship Funds see VI, Cases 2529 and 2530-22 Conf.*)

**XI. Government Relations.**

**XII. Home Base.**

**Case 2547-22 Conf. Appreciation of Services of Miss Prescott.**

The following resolution was adopted :

RESOLVED: That this Conference records its high appreciation of the efficient service which Miss Nellie G. Prescott, as Foreign Secretary of the W. A. B. F. M. S., has given to Assam and the great and sympathetic interest which she has shown in the advancement of Christ's Kingdom among the women and children of this Province. We much regret that Miss Prescott has felt it

necessary to lay down the work of the Secretaryship, but we rejoice that she is still able to give the work the benefit of her advice.

**XIII. Industrial** (For *Relation of Jorhat Schools to Mission Builder see XIX, Case 2561-22 Conf.,*)

**XIV. Language Study.**

The Language Examination Committee reported that the undermentioned persons had passed examinations as follows:—

*Assamese—First Year.*

Miss Ethel Nichols.	Miss Paul.
Miss Lewison.	Miss Marvin.
Mr. Fielder.	Mrs. Blanc.
Mr. Selander.	Mrs. Wyatt.
Miss Tait.	

*Garó—First Year*

Mr. Phillips, Mrs. Ewing, Mr. Ewing.

*Second Year.*

Miss Blakely.

*Áo Naga—Second Year.*

Mrs. Bailey. Miss Stever.

**Case 2548-22 Conf. Language Examination Requirements.**

It was suggested that Article II of the Constitution be so amended that the portion following the word "Assam" in the second line should read as follows: "but new missionaries shall have the privilege of voting only after they have been in Assam for at least one year."

The following were appointed a committee to study the situation pertaining to the requirements for the language examinations (whether it is desirable to modify the requirements, feasible to have uniform examinations, etc.) and report to Conference:

Miss Holmes, Dr. Mason, Mr. Pettigrew, Mr. Wyatt.

This Special Committee on Language Examination Requirements recommended:

1. That the Secretary furnish all missionaries, old and new, with the outline of courses of study required for the two examinations in Assamese, and also supply the missionaries in any given language area with a copy of the requirements for that area.

2. (a) That an examination similar in character to the one in Assamese just given at Golaghat, including subjects other than vernacular, be the required work for the first examination, and that outlines of the courses for the first and second examinations be hereto attached.

(b) That the courses outlined for the study of Assamese be used by the missionaries using other vernaculars in formulating a course of similar requirements in the several vernaculars.

3. (a) That a new missionary be not permitted to vote before the second Conference after his arrival upon the field, and

(b) That the passing of an examination be not necessary in order to exercise the right to vote.

(c) That, if he has not passed the first examination by the third Conference after his arrival, the privilege of voting be cancelled automatically.

(d) That, in the case of a missionary taking work for the second examination, the privilege of voting be cancelled if he has not passed the second examination by the time of the fourth Conference, with the exception that this requirement does not apply to the wives of missionaries.

(e) That these rules be held in abeyance by Conference when in their opinion it is justifiable.

The courses of Study in Assamese for the first and second years are as follows :—

## FIRST YEAR.

### *First Quarter.*

The teacher engaged for the first six weeks need not know English, in fact, had better not know it. All work to be done in the vernacular. The aim of the first six weeks is proper pronunciation, to be acquired by listening to the vernacular carefully, noting the facial workings, rhythm and emphasis or lack of it, and trying to reproduce exactly. No study in the vernacular should be undertaken in this period without the presence of an Assamese.

As opportunity offers, the student should listen to and try to talk with little children at their play.

During this period, time should be spent daily on the study of Farquhar's "Primer of Hinduism" and the Geography of India. The "Life of Nathan Brown" should be read also.

Reading of the vernacular may be commenced the latter part of the first quarter. Here the aim should be not to cover much ground but to cover it perfectly. A beginning may be made by writing in the vernacular character the sentences committed to memory the first six weeks and reading these. When these are mastered new material may be introduced, the teacher reading ahead of the student sentence by sentence until a given section is familiar, then the student reading it alone.

Dictation and writing should proceed with reading, to be written in a note book, corrected by the teacher and returned to the student. Such sentences as are found in Cumming's "How to



Learn a Language," page 66, at the bottom, to be mastered at the very beginning of the study. The fourth chapter of John to be studied in the first quarter. At the end of the first quarter the vocabulary should include such words as :—bring, give, take, make, look, send, put, go, come, wait, stop, clothes, hurry, breakfast, dinner, tea, sugar, milk, salt, vinegar, meat, trunk, chair, table, room, bed, cook-house, hat, shoes, coat, money, carriage, book, letter, paper, vegetables, bread, butter, house, road, day, night, how, dog, goat, cat, horse, here, there, today, to-morrow, now, yesterday, quickly, in this room, in that room, on the table, under the table, this way, that way, in the cupboard, from the house, to the house, slowly, quickly, carefully, ready, good, bad, big, little, warm, cold, all, few, some, where, how much, how many, when.

All new words to be learned in sentences. Learn also the divisions of time, hours, days, months, seasons.

### *Second Quarter.*

All old material to be constantly reviewed. Drill on relative sentences, Cummings page 47.

Learn names of trades, scales of wages, money and measure tables, numerals to 100, sentences from Cummings pages 41 to 44.

Study John chapters 9 and 6.

Study the geography of Assam.

Study the history of India up to the British period.

Read an English history of Assam. (Gait's is recommended.)

All study of geography, history, etc., to be done out of class hours in English, and questions to be set by examiners.

### *Third Quarter.*

All material to be constantly reviewed.

Sentences in Cummings pages 45 and 44, and comparison, page 48.

Words denoting family relations, selected from Brown's Grammar, pages 27-31.

Study John, Chapters 5, 7, 8, 3, 2, 1.

Further study of the Geography of Assam and the History of India, and Mission History, with special reference to one's own station.

### *Fourth Quarter.*

Old material reviewed.

Gospel of John finished.

General drill tables. Lora Haki or Niti Mala, part two, to be studied this term.

Study of the history of India to be brought up to the present time.



*General Remarks :*

The Gospel of John to be studied without adherence to the text, but in colloquial Assamese.

No grammar, as such, to be studied the first year.

It may be found profitable to follow closely the course in Urdu worked out by Cummings.

Practice in reading and translation of handwriting.

The student should try to use idiomatic Assamese and should look out for idiomatic expressions in his reading and when listening to Assamese people using their mother tongue.

Examination questions in history and geography will be general, so that any history of India designed for the matriculation examination will contain all the information required for the first year history examination. A. C. Mukerjee, M.A., B.L., has a good sketch of the history of India, published by S. R. Lahiri, 56 College St., Calcutta.

## SECOND YEAR.

*Total Credits 400.*

*A. 40 credits :*

Not to appear in examination.

*Resumes* of choice of one each from (a) and (b) to be handed in at end of third month; choice of one from (c) at end of sixth month; and (d) at end of ninth month.

(a) *Gitanjali* } Tagore.  
*Crescent Moon* }

(b) *Ramayana.*  
*Bhagavad Gita.*  
*Selections from Indian Classics.*

(c) *Crown of Hinduism*—Farquhar.

*Modern Religious Movements in India*—Farquhar.

*India and her Faiths*—Pratt.

(d) *Selections from the Koran.*

*B. 40 credits :*

*The Book of Psalms.*

Read the book of Psalms, making a note-book of choice verses and idiomatic and devotional expressions. The note-book is to be handed in at the end of the sixth month. Also commit three of the following five Psalms to memory: Psalms 1, 19, 23, 51, 121. Only the memorized Psalms are to appear at the time of the examination.

*C. 50 credits :*

Translation questions to be based upon poems in Nitimala, Parts IV and V.

*D. 160 credits :*

The Acts of the Apostles,  
 Philippians,  
 James,  
*Sarothi* by Shri Sotyanath Borah, and either  
*Grandmother's Tales*, L. Bezboruah or  
*Nitimala*, Parts IV and V.

Dictation from the above to be given by the pundit during the year. A list of idioms to be made and handed in at the time of the examination. These books are to be marked excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor by the examiners.

*The written and oral examination to be based upon the above sources and to be credited as follows :*

- I. Dictation of ten lines of Assamese, one point deducted for each mistake in spelling.
 

<i>20 credits.</i>
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- II. Retelling of some story.
 

<i>40 credits.</i>
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 Credits to be evenly divided between :
 

Pronunciation.
Grammar.
Vocabulary.
Freedom in speech.
- III. A twenty-minute address to be delivered from a text assigned from Acts, the Letter to the Philippians or James ; the examinee to be allowed one hour for preparation with only vernacular Bible and Hymnal as helps.
 

<i>100 credits.</i>
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Credits evenly divided between :

Pronunciation.
Grammar.
Vocabulary.
Freedom in speech.

*E. 70 credits :*

Translation :

After fifteen minutes study read aloud a vernacular letter not to exceed two sheets of note paper, written in a running hand. Translate the same into English.

<i>20 credits.</i>
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Translation of passage from English into Assamese.

Translation of passage from Assamese into English.

<i>50 credits.</i>
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*F. 40 credits :*

Conversation with unknown villager on topics assigned by examiner.

<i>20 credits.</i>
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<i>10 credits.</i>
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<i>10 credits.</i>
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RESOLVED: That we adopt the report. (See *IV*, Case 2528-22 Conf., *Committee on Revision of Constitution*.)

## XV. Library

**Case 2549-22 Conf. Preservation of Literature in America.**

RESOLVED: That one copy of each of our Conference Library books and pamphlets be sent to some library in America for preservation, and that a Committee be appointed to take such steps as are necessary for the sending of the same.

The Chairman appointed Mr. Hutton, Mrs. Witter, Dr. Mason.

## XVI. Literature and Bible Translation.

**Case 2550-22 Conf. Distribution of New Literature.**

On the report of the Findings Committee the following action was taken:

RESOLVED: That the custodian of Assamese Literature be requested to forward a copy of each new tract or booklet as it comes out to each of the missionaries in the language area concerned.

## XVII. Medical.

(See *XIX*, Case 2563-22 Conf., *Needs*.)

**Case 2551-22 Conf. Matter of Gauhati Doctor Referred.**

RESOLVED: That the matter of a doctor for the Woman's Hospital at Gauhati be referred to the Committee on Needs in Personnel.

**Case 2552-22 Conf. Services of Nurses.**

The following statement was read by the Chairman of the Woman's Committee:

The Committee feels that, in order to safeguard the time of the nurses as far as possible for language study, it is well to remind ourselves that they have come out for a definite work, for which preparation in language and an acquaintance with Indian conditions and customs are as essential as for educational or evangelistic work, if not more so. They are not at our beck and call. Pending the erection of the hospital other arrangements for foreseen illness should be made as far as possible. When the hospital is ready, our nurses will gladly welcome missionary women and children and can promise that they will be well taken care of. In the meantime, if other arrangements cannot be made for foreseen illness, inasmuch as any station in the valley from Dhubri to Sadiya is within twenty-four hours of Gauhati, it seems unnecessary to call a

nurse before she is needed. Of course in all emergencies or unforeseen illness the nurses will respond immediately. The action taken by Conference in 1904-05 regarding medical missionaries' attendance upon fellow missionaries, (See p. 18 of the pamphlet containing Conference Constitution, By-Laws, Standing Resolutions, etc.,) should apply to nurses.

**RESOLVED:** That we adopt the statement of the Woman's Committee as our policy in regard to the services of nurses.

**Case 2553-22 Conf. Medical Allowance.**

A Committee was appointed, consisting of Mr. Bowers, Mr. Boggs and Mrs. Tuttle, to bring in a resolution regarding the proposed change in the plan for medical allowance. The report of this Committee was as follows :

In compliance with the action of the Board requesting consideration of the proposed revision of medical allowance, we, your Committee, beg to report as follows :—

We appreciate the embarrassment of the Board on account of the present financial difficulties and their desire to curtail expenses in every possible way, and remember with gratitude their purpose, as expressed in numerous actions, that no injustice or hardship be imposed on any. In view of their ever generous treatment we regret that abuse of privilege by a few should have contributed to make some new ruling seem necessary. But we believe that the great body of workers should not be made to suffer for the abuse by the few. In this trying situation we wish that we might take action in harmony with the suggestion of the Board, and thus relieve them in some measure of their burden. But after most careful consideration we have concluded that such a course is impossible, which conclusion is based upon the following considerations :

(1) The present salary of the Assam missionaries is not sufficient to enable them to meet heavy medical or dental bills. While under normal conditions we should heartily approve the principle that some portion of medical expenses be met by missionaries, yet, under present circumstances, we feel that the proposed ruling would work hardship, especially in stations where there was not a medical missionary. It was only because of our desire to save the Board added embarrassment that we refrained from asking for an increase in salary at the last Conference, although a number of our missionaries were in financial straits at the time. In this connection we would remind the Board that the cost of living is higher in Assam than in any other part of India (not including Burma), and therefore as long ago as 1913 our Conference felt that special provision should be made for missionaries in Assam over and above

the regular basal rate for India. (See 1913 Conference report p. 117, III, 1.)

(2) Some missionaries have committed themselves to this work after definite assurances from the Board that their medical expenses would be met. They have made their plans and entered into arrangements on this basis, and suddenly to be required to fall back upon their personal resources for medical expenses places them in a most difficult, if not impossible, situation.

(3) We would point out also that the application of the new ruling would nullify in large measure the working of the plan for medical supervision. For, while a person might be willing to accept the advice of a medical adviser, if the estimated cost of treatment was beyond his power to pay, he would be unable to act upon it. That would mean suffering, diminished effectiveness and probably, in the end, a larger expenditure, due to allowing the trouble to go unremedied until it had assumed larger proportions.

In the light of these facts we beg to register our very earnest protest against the proposed change in the existing arrangements for meeting medical and dental bills, at least until the needed increase in salary can be granted or living expenses decrease to a large extent.

But if the Board should find it impossible to act favorably to our desire, we would request that, in view of the fact that bills were contracted in good faith under the old rules during the period for which the Board's action was made retroactive, and that the persons involved perhaps would have found it impossible to do what was necessary from personal funds, the Board do not put into effect the retroactive clause for the period previous to September 1st, 1922.

**RESOLVED:** That we adopt the report of the committee. (See X, Case 2541-22 Conf., *Freight Allowance*.)

**Case 2554 22 Conf. Legitimate Medical Expense and Competent Advice.**

At the request of Conference the Chairman appointed a Committee, consisting of Mr. Blanc, Mrs. Swanson and Mr. Harding, to present a statement of legitimate items of medical expense and competent medical advice. The report of this Committee was as follows:—

The Committee recommends:

(1) That the following be considered legitimate items of medical expense, chargeable to the Mission:

- (a) All items of travel, as charged on Conference expenses.
- (b) Seventy-five per cent of bills for boarding houses and hospitals.
- (c) All items of professional service, *i.e.* examinations, treatments, operations, dental work, eye glasses, etc.,



(2) That advice by the following shall be considered adequate :

- (a) A Mission doctor.
- (b) Any doctor of Assistant Surgeon grade or higher, or a garden doctor, when a Mission doctor is not available.
- (c) A specialist, when required.

(3) That where medical advice is not available each case be dealt with individually by the Reference Committee.

RESOLVED: That we adopt the report of the Committee.

**Case 2555-22 Conf. Request for Dentist Referred.**

RESOLVED: That the matter of asking for a dentist for Assam be referred to the Reference Committee.

**XVIII. Mission Conferences, Councils, Organizations, etc.**

**Case 2556-22 Conf. Disapproval of Poona Resolutions.**

The Mission Secretary read the Resolutions of the National Missionary Council, adopted at Poona in January, 1922. After discussion it was

RESOLVED: 1. That for reasons stated by the Reference Committee Conference express its disapproval of the Poona resolutions.

2. This motion shall not be construed as a permanent bar to approval if conditions become more satisfactory.

**XIX. Needs and Occupation of Field.**

**Case 2557-22 Conf. Goalpara North Bank A Non-residential District.**

Under the head "Matters Referred by the Board," the following were taken up :—

- (1) Possible Retrenchment in Work.
- (2) Reconsideration of Property Needs.

In this connection Mr. Bowers made his report on the work at Dhubri, at the conclusion of which he offered the following motion :—

- 1. That we re-affirm the decision of last Conference and develop the North Bank, Goalpara, from Dhubri ;
- 2. That the plant at Dhubri be completed as soon as possible.
- 3. That in view of the present financial situation, which will probably interfere with the sending of the number of workers that were mentioned within the next ten years ;

And as the use of motor cars makes less essential the location of mission families in close proximity ;



And in connection with the question of comity under consideration with the Santal Mission ;

We recommend that for the present we discontinue the effort to obtain land for a station at Bongaigaon.

After this motion had been seconded, it was voted to go into Committee of the Whole for consideration of problems pertaining to retrenchment and this method was continued throughout the later meetings at which this subject was discussed. At the conclusion, the Committee of the Whole arose and reported, after which action was taken as follows, being a substitute for the above proposal :

**RESOLVED :** That the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole be adopted, viz : That in response to the request of the Board that we consider the possibility of retrenchment in our work in Assam, the Assam Mission Conference abandon the Goalpara North Bank as a place of residence for a missionary.

**Case 2558-22 Conf. Designation of Mr. and Mrs. Bowers**

**RESOLVED :** That Mr. and Mrs. Bowers be requested to accept the work of the Sibsagor field, residing in the town of Sibsagor.

**Case 2559-22 Conf. Appreciation of Mr. and Mrs. Bowers.**

**RESOLVED :** That Conference express its high regard for the manner in which Mr. and Mrs. Bowers have presented their point of view of their field work, and the Christian spirit in which the discussion was received.

**Case 2560-22 Conf. Garo Association and Goalpara N. B.**

**RESOLVED :** That a letter be sent by this Conference to the Garo Association, requesting them to care for the work among the churches on the North Bank, Goalpara.

Appointed to send the letter : Mr. Tuttle.

**Case 2561-22 Conf. Mission Builder : Location and Relation to Jorhat.**

**RESOLVED :** That the location of the Mission Builder and his relation to the Jorhat Industrial School be referred to the Reference Committee.

**Case 2562-22 Conf. Property Needs Referred.**

The President appointed as Committee on Property Needs : Mr. Hutton, M. Boggs, Mr. Bowers, Mr. Blanc, and Miss May Nichols. After the Committee reported, Conference went into Committee of the Whole. The ensuing discussion became so protracted that Conference decided that circumstances did not permit.

the formulation of a satisfactory statement on the floor. Therefore, it was

**RESOLVED:** That the matter of property needs be referred the Property and Reference Committees.

[During the discussion Conference had begun a list of needs, but when the matter was referred to the Property and Reference Committees, these items no longer were considered binding, and in making up its statement the Committee on Needs proceeded on the basis that it was not especially instructed by Conference in regard to any item. See end of this section for statement of Needs as formulated by this Committee.—*Ed.*]

**Case 2563-22 Conf. Needs in Personnel.**

The following were appointed to bring in a statement of needs for new missionaries: Mr. Pettigrew, Dr. Mason, Miss Hay, Miss Wright, Mr. Hutton. Their report was discussed at considerable length, and finally, for lack of time to complete the statement satisfactorily, it was

**RESOLVED:** 1. That the Reference Committee be the Committee on Needs in Personnel for the coming year.

2. That members of Conference submit lists of needs together with reasons therefore to this Committee a sufficient time before the next Conference session to enable the Reference Committee to place in the hands of every member of Conference a copy of the report on needs before the opening or at the opening of next Conference.

The statement of needs as drawn up by the Reference Committee is as follows:

**I. General Society.**

1. *Missionaries*

Mikir work	one man
Jorhat	one man. educational
General	one man, administration.

2. *Property*

A Class

Tura water supply (Case 2039)	...	Rs. 2,750
Gauhati, reroofing Bungalow No. I and school house (Case 2020)	...	1,500
Gauhati, reroofing Bungalow No. II and levelling floor (Case 2021)	...	900
Jorhat, medical bungalow (Case 2459)	...	15,000
General, Mission Builder bungalow	14,400	
Site for same	3,000	17,400
(Case 2407)		

Jorhat: To repay in part the Rs. 25,000 released for emergency sanitary measures (see also Case 2149, para. (b) )	...	16,000
Impur, additional for hospital (Case 1773)	...	1,000
General, Secretary-Treasurer bungalow	...	15,000
Administration annex	...	500
Gauhati, Kampfer (Case 2402)	...	1,200
Mikir work bungalow	...	15,000
Jorhat: Reaffirm request for loss in exchange on gifts of \$10,077 and \$23,700 for Jorhat School building appropriations (see Case 2149 para (a) )	...	13,186
Gauhati, Reaffirm request for 12½% on student hostel (Case 2141)	...	2,680
Gauhati, Teacher's house, field compound (Case 1825)	...	1,000
Gauhati, School dormitory, field compound (Case 1696 para. (b) )	...	1,500
Golaghat, Dispensary and land	...	4,000
Jorhat, Hospital building	...	100,000
Jorhat, Land for medical plant	...	8,412
Jorhat, Bungalow for nurses	...	15,000
Kangpokpi, School building, including grading	...	8,000
Kangpokpi, School dormitory	...	2,000
Tura, stable and syce's quarters (Case 2316)	...	800
<b>B Class.</b>		
Kohima, School plant	...	6,000
Tura, Furniture, boys' hostel	...	1,000
Tura, Latrines, boys' hostel	...	600
Tura, Library equipment, boys' hostel	...	100
Tura, Athletic field boys' hostel	...	200

## II. Woman's Society.

### 1. *Missionaries.*

Gauhati

Lady Doctor.

### 2. *Property.*

		Rs,
(1) Tura, water supply (Case 2039)	...	2,750
(2) Tura, School plant (Case 2458)	...	16,192
(3) Gauhati, Bungalow for Woman's Hospital, including outbuildings, maximum	...	15,000
(4) Gauhati, Heavy furniture for Woman's Bungalow	...	1,000

(5)	Gauhati, hospital equipment, plus 40% landing in India, first instalment ...	11,200
(6)	Gauhati, Two worker's houses, Rs. 400/- each, (Miss Holmes) one now ...	400
(7)	Golaghat, to apply on the Rs. 25,800 asked in Case 2046, 8000/- 12½ additional on original appropriation of Rs. 30,000 3750	11,750
(8)	Nowgong, Half of estimated amount for extension of school building and permanent roofs on smaller buildings, as first instalment ...	13,400
(9)	Gauhati, two workers houses, Rs. 400 each, (Miss Holmes) second ...	400

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Rs. 72,092

## XX. Policies and Principles

(See I Case 2521-22 Conf., *Assumption of Responsibility and Self-Support by Churches* and Case 2522-22 Conf., *Letters to Associations*.)

**Case 2564-22 Conf. Committee on Policy for Kangpokpi work.**

RESOLVED: That a Committee be appointed to consider plans and policies concerning the Kangpokpi work.

The Chairman appointed the Reference Committee to undertake this work, this being the desire of Conference.

**Case 2565-22 Conf. Services of Domiciled European or Anglo-Indian Workers.**

Secretary Tuttle presented a communication received by him, inquiring how far our Mission would be willing to admit members of the domiciled community or Anglo-Indians as co-workers in Christ's service here in India. It was

RESOLVED: That Conference feels that it cannot take any definite action at this time.

## XXI. Property Matters.

(See also XIX Case 2563-22 Conf., *Needs*.)

The Mission Builder read his report, as follows :

The six months that I have had the privilege of being builder for the Assam Mission I have found exceedingly interesting, although not altogether satisfactory. You have been very kind and patient, and, although I am a novice, you have given me your confidence and sympathy, for which I am grateful. I have travelled nearly 6,000 miles and have written something over 200 letters in the interest of the building projects of Assam.

It has been somewhat difficult to carry on with the buildings during the transition period, as we have had no permanent quarters and our stock has been more or less out of reach.

It is impossible at this time to report the completion of any of the bungalows. Hence the figures as read are not complete, as in each case building is going on.

We hope that if we are spared another year we shall be able to report greater achievements and shall have the privilege of reporting the completion of the bungalows now under construction, that the new property needs will be satisfied, and that where there is nothing now we shall see new hospitals and bungalows for the glory of God.

## BUILDERS BALANCE SHEET

*From 16th April to 31st October, 1922.*

Dr.	Received from Treasurer from 16th April to 31st Oct. 1922.	Rs.	A.	P.
	... ..	28,701	0	0
	Received from Treas. as per his Notification No. 512 of 2nd Nov., 1922	1,294	0	0
	Treas. paid Mr. Blanc as per his statement from 16th April to 31st Oct.	10,284	3	3
	Balance with Mr. Blanc as per his Balance Sheet of 15th April			
	Hardware Stock	27,373	6	3
	Timber Stock	19,019	1	3
	Bills Receivable	6,709	2	0
	Cash in hand	3,736	9	9
	Interest from bank	55	8	6
	Stock at Kangpokpi as per Dr. Crozier's Statement	4,680	5	7
	Ann Arbor Specific as per Dr. Crozier's Statement	104	13	3
	Sundry Creditors as per schedule enclosed.	2,815	15	6
		<hr/>		
		104,774	1	4
Cr.	Industrial Building, Jorhat (G.S.)	8,621	12	0
	Administration Building „ (G.S.)	1,272	10	6
	Bible School Building „ (G.S.)	1,384	2	6
	Bible School Bungalow „ (G.S.)	32	7	0
	Water Plant, Acad. Comp., „ (G.S.)	674	0	9
	G.S. Bungalow, Nowgong „	108	2	0
	G.S. Bungalow, Dhubri	45	0	0
	Medical Bungalow, Kangpokpi (G.S.)	3,316	12	0
	Educational Bungalow, „ (G.S.)	1,643	7	9
	Evangelistic Compound, Gauhati (G.S.)	2,430	0	0
	Dormitory Cookhouse (G.S. Fund) Tura	1,000	0	0
	Land (G.S.) Jorhat	1,000	0	0
	W.S. School Plant, Golaghat	8,134	14	3

W.S. Bungalow, Nowgong	...	10,343	15	3
W.S. Residence, Impur	...	335	0	0
W.S. Plant, Tura	...	5,277	13	0
W.S. Orphanage, Gauhati	...	1,140	0	0
Office expenses	...	531	14	0
Travel expenses	...	1,205	4	3
Stock at Golaghat	...	125	8	0
Cash in hand	...	435	12	6
Cash with Dr. Ahlquist, to be accounted for	...	681	5	3
Cash with Infai, to be accounted for	...	12	7	3
Mr. Blanc, to be accounted for :				
Machinery, Jorhat	...	1,289	0	3
Shop Upkeep, Jorhat	...	1,168	5	0
Office Expenses	...	1,173	7	6
Travel Expenses	...	881	6	6
Depreciation	...	420	5	3
Hardware stock	...	20,873	2	3
Timber stock	...	16,611	0	6
Cash in hand	...	2,126	1	3
Bills receivable	...	4,420	13	6
Stock at Kangpokpi :—				
Timber stock	...	3,192	0	4
Hardware stock	...	2,555	2	9
Sundry Debtors as per schedule enclosed		311	0	0
			104,774	1 4

## SCHEDULE OF CREDITORS

Calcutta Decorating Co.	...	...	1,204	8	0
N. G. Mitra & Co., Calcutta	...	...	303	4	0
Jessop & Co., Calcutta	...	...	111	0	3
Burn & Co., Calcutta	...	...	140	0	0
Dr. Crozier	...	...	1,057	3	3
			2,815	15	6

## SCHEDULE OF DEBTORS.

Miss Nichols, Golaghat	...	...	159	8	0
Rev. O. L. Swanson,	...	...	151	8	0
			311	0	0

**Case 2566-22 Conf. Site for Gale Memorial Bible School.**

(For action on this see A. R. C. 2510—Ed.)

**RESOLVED:** That a Committee be appointed to execute the transfer of the property in Jorhat known as the "Kirby property" from the General Society to the Woman's Society as a site for the Gale Memorial Bible School.



The following were appointed: Chairman of Property Committee, Mission Builder, Chairman of Woman's Committee, Mission Secretary.

**Case 2567-22 Conf. Type Plan Bungalow.**

In consideration of Case 2272-21 Conference, it was

RESOLVED: That this Conference determine the necessary type plan of bungalow with general specifications of the same and that we undertake to build such buildings.

**Case 2568-22 Conf. Type Plan for Current Year.**

RESOLVED: That for the present year the plan of the Nowgong General Society Bungalow be adopted as the type plan, with only such modifications as have the approval of the Mission Builder, the Property Committee and the Reference Committee.

**Case 2569-22 Conf. Type Plan Bungalow for Woman's Society.**

RESOLVED: That the Mission Builder, Mr. Blanc and the Chairman of the Woman's Committee be appointed as a Committee to draw up a type plan bungalow for the Woman's Society missionaries.

**Case 2570-22 Conf. Rest Houses at Shillong and Darjeeling.**

After a report by Mr. Blanc, Chairman of a Committee appointed at last year's Conference to study the matter of rest houses for the Mission, it was

RESOLVED: 1. That Conference favours having rest houses in both Shillong and Darjeeling.

2. That the Committee to report on Mission Rest Houses be instructed to get prices on available sites in Shillong and report to the Reference Committee for recommendation to the Board; and that the question of sites for mission rest houses be referred back to the Committee with instructions to present prices, estimates, etc. for rest houses both in Shillong and Darjeeling.

**Case 2571-22 Conf. Funds for Land in Shillong.**

In view of the rapidity with which Shillong is growing and the necessity of securing land while suitable tracts till are available, it was

RESOLVED: That a Committee be appointed to canvas Conference for a sum of not less than Rs. 2,500/- to secure an option on land in Shillong as a site for rest houses.

The Chairman appointed: Mr. Hutton, Mr. Fielder, Mr. Blanc, Miss Holmes.

The entire amount was pledged.

**Case 2572-22 Conf. Report on Shillong Rest House for 1922.**

Mr. Fielder gave the following report on the Shillong Rest House (Kirby property) for the season of 1922.

The Shillong Rest House was rented during 1922 as follows :

Suite No. 1—June 1 to September 30.

Suite No. 2—April 20 to October 31.

Although we have tried in every way to rent it for the period when our own missionaries would not require it, we have not been successful so far.

We carried out necessary repairs to the property, including the roof, floors, doors, windows and outbuildings, and resurfacing the paths, paid the taxes and caretaker, and closed the season with a balance of receipts over expenditures of Rs. 93-2-3. This will be eliminated by necessary expenses before the next season.

The total receipts for the season were Rs. 791 and the expenditures Rs. 697-13-9. Since the Mission is paying about Rs. 2000 for the two year period, it will be seen that on the basis of a necessary income of Rs 1000-per year the first year is closing with debit balance of Rs. 209. This we shall endeavor to counterbalance by increased receipts during 1923. To date the rentals for the coming season are :

Suite No. 1—April 1 to September 30.

Suite No. 2—April 20 to September 30.

That brings Rs. 850/- of the required amount (Rs. 1209/-) into sight. We have written to every likely missionary society in Assam and Bengal, offering the property at the reduced rate of Rs. 50/- per suite per month if taken for a period of several months outside our season, but while we have had a number of responses, there was none looking toward definite arrangements. There has been one offer by an outside person to take the whole property for a year, which of course could not be accepted.

Unless something quite unforeseen happens, it should be possible to save nearly all the receipts from now on for Dr. and Mrs. Kirby, the only regular items to be deducted being taxes and wages of caretaker, no extensive repairs being anticipated.

RESOLVED: That we adopt Mr. Fielder's report on the Shillong Rest House.

## XXII. Publicity.

Dr. Witter made a short statement to the effect that owing to ill health during the year it had been impossible to prepare the booklet on the Assam Mission as requested at the last Conference.

A communication from Mrs. Mason regarding the sending of news was read.

The following were appointed to report to various papers and periodicals as listed below..

Mr. Firth	...	Iowa <i>Record</i>
Mr. Sword	...	Swedish Baptist

Mr. Fielder	...	<i>The Baptist</i>
Miss Holmes	...	<i>Missions</i>
Mr. Wyatt	...	<i>The Statesman</i>
Dr. and Mrs. Witter	...	<i>The Watchman-Examiner</i>
Mr. Pettigrew	...	<i>The Englishman</i>
Mr. Boggs	...	<i>Assamiya.</i>

## XXII. Public Questions

### XXIV. Secretary.

#### *Mission Secretary-Treasurer's Report, 1921-22.*

The year just closing has been somewhat uneventful in the work of your Secretary. While it has been an exceedingly busy year, the larger part of the time has been spent in detail work, which, although of utmost importance, would not be of interest in a report of this nature. A brief mention of the work of the year seems all that is necessary at this time. Fuller remarks regarding features of the work that require action by Conference will be made in connection with the agenda.

1. TRAVEL. Two and a half months of the year have been spent out of the office on Mission business. This includes a trip to Kangpokpi with Dr. Robbins at the close of the last Conference, and a visit to Dhubri during the same month; in January a trip to South India to attend the Grants-in-Aid Conference; in February a trip to Calcutta to consult Dr. Robbins regarding our plans for Jorhat in view of Mr. Tilden's unexpected furlough; during the same month a visit to Jorhat and Golaghat, and again in April a visit to these same stations on Property Committee work. In May I accompanied Dr. Ahlquist to Dhubri on Property Committee work. In August some time was spent in Calcutta having the Treasurer's books audited. There were other calls that it was not possible to accept because of pressure of work in the office.

#### 2. COMMITTEE WORK.

a. Reference Committee. Since the last session of Conference the Reference Committee held a short session at the close of Conference and has held three regular sessions, viz. January 17-25; June 3-15; October 18-27. The reports of the actions of this Committee have been placed in your hands. Any matters requiring comment will be presented in connection with the business agenda. Too much cannot be said in commendation of the work of the Committee. The sessions have been long and hard, but the members have given themselves unstintedly to the work.

b. Property Committee. This Committee held a pro-

longed session in April and May, when it went thoroughly into the property work of the Mission, especially in an endeavor to ascertain just how we stood in our property affairs, and to make arrangements for handing the building work over to Mr. Sword. This last seemed necessary on account of Mr. Blanc having to assume new responsibilities due to the readjustments at Jorhat made necessary by Mr. Tilden's enforced furlough.

In ascertaining how we stood in our property affairs, the Committee wished to know for what property, funds were available, and how much; what was the state of the Property Pool, the progress made on buildings under construction, etc. You have received a partial report of the work done by that Committee in the form of copies of the balance sheet prepared to send home and the covering letter to the Foreign Secretaries of the two Societies, which went with it.

In preparation for the work of the members of the Committee, both when not in session and when in session, it had been necessary to go through the records in the Treasury Department to obtain a complete list of all property appropriations, what amounts had been spent and what were still available. This was no small task and occupied a great deal of time on the part of the clerks and myself. Books were prepared showing the appropriations for each building; the amount spent for each; the relation of such appropriations to the Property Pool and the Builder, so far as reports were available. A copy of this book was placed in the hands of each member of the Property Committee, the Builder, the Chairman of the Woman's Committee, and the Secretary-Treasurer. It is believed that these books will provide those responsible for property matters with such information as they need. The session of this Committee and work left by it consumed nearly a month. But it was time well spent.

Under the new regulations for the conduct of the Treasury Department it is not possible to continue the Property Pool. Many of us will not be sorry to have it discontinued.

3. OFFICE. In the office we are still overloaded. We have been hoping all year that help would come from home so that it would be possible to hand over the Treasury work at least to another. Such help has not come; on the other hand a new system of accounting to be used by Mission Treasurers has been installed by the Board. Although most, if not all, of the changes are to be highly commended, and make for a long desired definiteness and simplicity in Treasury work, they add not a little to the work of the Treasurers. To offset somewhat this extra work we are making modifications in the conduct of our Assam Treasury which it is hoped will decrease to some extent the work and make it more automatic, so far as remittances etc. are



concerned. It will not be as elastic as the old method has been, but that will not be without its advantages to the missionaries.

During the year the Treasury Department has tried to take prompt care of matters that concerned the members of the Mission but sometimes it has been at the expense of neglecting other matters no less, and perhaps even more, important.

In the Secretary Department there have been delays in some matters such as there should not have been, and other things have had to be omitted altogether. In this connection it may not be out of place to state that the Secretary work is suffering and has suffered because the two offices are combined. The Treasury work also has suffered, but in the nature of the case that branch of the work could not be neglected as the other. As the work has had to be conducted the Secretaryship has suffered more than it has profited by having the Treasury work combined with it. For this reason, as well as others, it seems to me highly desirable that the two offices be separated at once. In a recent letter Mr. Huntington again raises the question as to the desirability of a joint Treasury in Calcutta. I, for one, am in favour of it if the right man can be found for the work. If the Secretary's office can be furnished with certain information at regular intervals and if the Reference Committee can have the books of the Treasurer at the sessions of the Committee, we would suffer little if any disadvantage from the separation of the two offices. Since these conditions named seem capable of being met, this obstacle to our Treasurer being in Calcutta is removed.

4. SITUATION ON THE FIELDS. On the whole, only encouraging reports come from the fields. All of us rejoice that it has been possible to place a new family at Sadiya and deeply appreciate the sacrifice of Dr. and Mrs. Witter in giving the help which they have given to get that work on its feet once more.

Since we last met, Mr. and Mrs. Firth have reached their field and North Lakhimpur is again under their wise leadership. North Kamrup and Mongoldai, for five years without a full time missionary, have been getting the undivided attention of Mr. Kampfer since his return in July. Mr. and Mrs. Tanquist have returned to their work in Kohima. Miss Wilson and Miss Holmes are again in Gauhati pushing evangelistic work in the town and district. The Widows and Orphans home—a long felt need—is being established. Mr. and Mrs. Suppree, Mr. and Mrs. Selander, Mr. and Mrs. Ewing, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, Miss Tait and Miss Christenson have been added to our number. For this excellent reinforcement we are devoutly grateful. May our Heavenly Father richly bless all—both returning and new workers—and give them years of happy service in Assam.

We are without a missionary for the promising work among

the Mikirs. Our work at Jorhat has been crippled by Mr. Tilden having to take furlough when he did, thus making it necessary for the younger missionaries there to assume heavy loads before they were prepared to do so. The detaining of Mr. Longwell at home on account of the financial stringency is crippling the work on the Impur field where Dr. Bailey is having to carry all of the work of the General Society single handed.

Two important facts regarding the North Lakhimpur field stand out prominently. One is the taking over by the All Assam Convention of the work for the Daphlas, and the other is the decision of the S. P. G. to abandon prosecution of their work in this field.

Perhaps the darkest spots in our work so far as the fields are concerned are found in the lack of harmony among our missionaries in some of our stations. Without presuming to pass judgment on any, I venture again to question the policy of bunching our missionaries in the stations. Is it not better that we should be scattered out over the fields where individuality will have scope to develop the work along lines determined by the Reference Committee and Conference? I know that some will say that isolation accentuates one's eccentricities, but would it be as harmful as living together where there is not harmony? Others have said that if missionaries cannot live and work harmoniously together they are not fit to be missionaries and should return to the home land. With that position, I for one, take issue. The conditions under which missionaries are asked to work together in most of our stations, for the same people, in the same language, in the same area and with the same authority, are unnatural, and unless the missionaries so grouped are personally very congenial few can stand the test. Very few Christian workers in any part of the world would be able to measure up to this high standard of our idealistic friends. With missionaries who have sufficient strength of character and conviction to lead them to come to the ends of the earth with a message, the position is even more difficult. Differences usually arise in the first instance over matters connected with the work on which both parties have strong convictions. It is almost certain that some of our best missionaries would be disqualified for work if judged by this standard. The proposal is as unreasonable as it would be to have two pastors over the same church at home with equal authority and expect perfect harmony between them. While not desiring to abet in any way any imperfections which make it difficult for us to work harmoniously, I maintain that it is not necessarily disparaging to our missionaries if they do not succeed in working harmoniously under such unnatural conditions. If the work divided naturally along linguistic and tribal lines—as in many of the stations of Burma—or territorial



lines, the situation would be different. Again, the situation is aggravated by our multiplicity of languages. If the same language were used throughout our Mission or even if there were only two or three languages with several stations using each, the complexity of the situation would be greatly reduced. But as it is now, when any case of disharmony arises in the hills where there is only one station using the same language, there is presented at once the difficulty of providing a new field of labor for either of the missionaries concerned. To go elsewhere a new language must be learned. If one is not clever in learning a language, the alternative is to return to America. I hesitate to assent longer to a policy which would result in such a leakage in our missionary staff as that might entail. I have felt for years that the best general policy for our work in the plains is the one-man-station plan. In the past so far as hills stations are concerned it has seemed wise to accept the judgment of the hills missionaries and group our missionaries in central stations. But now, I, for one, consider it a mistake to continue this policy even though most of our missionaries in the hills may favor it. The hills stations present trying conditions, chief among which is isolation. But I believe that in spite of the isolation the situation would be happier for the most part with the one-man-station plan than otherwise. I know of stations in other mission fields of our Society where the missionary sometimes does not see another white face for years—yet they are able to carry on and the work prospers. Ever since it has been my lot to have much to do with the administration of our Mission there have been more or less strained relations in some of our stations. And I know that long before my day such was the case. These strained relations have always been detrimental to the work. If these unhappy circumstances cause those directly concerned as much grief and perplexity as they do those of us whose duty it becomes to try to adjust the differences,—and I have reason to believe that they do—they are the most trying experiences which those missionaries have to go through. We admit that there are cases where it seems necessary for more than one family to occupy the same station, as, for example in the case of the Schools at Jorhat. In other cases, especially where there cannot be an absolute and clear cut division of the work with no overlapping, I believe that the one-man-station plan is the most speedy and sure solution of the difficulty we face now in grouping some of our number in central stations. In all earnestness I appeal for a straight facing of this problem. Our work suffers, no one can tell how much, where there is a lack of harmony among the missionaries. Those of us who have been in India for any length of time know that if there is a lack of harmony it is not long before the Indian community is aware of it.

5. COMITY. There have been several matters of Comity before the Committee this year. It would seem that the time when we as Baptists have had almost undisputed right over mission work in the greater part of Assam is at an end. Other missions are awake to the need. Is it fair to the work of the Kingdom if we hinder others from doing what we are unable to do? This also is a question that we should face. The result of years during which we have been understaffed is showing now in our inability to develop parts of the Province for which we have assumed the responsibility. Who, if any one, is at fault for this condition it is hard to determine. Perhaps we as a Mission have not been fully awake to our opportunities. Perhaps we have not been persistent enough in our requests for more missionaries. Perhaps we have not clearly presented our need to the Board at home. I remember some years ago, during my first term, sending in a request to the Reference Committee for a total of twenty-four missionaries for the Kamrup field. This was in line with the estimate of the Student Volunteer Movement that there should be one missionary to each 25,000 people. It is perhaps needless to say that my request was met with a "Young man, sit down!" or words to that effect. I sat down, but I still think that it might have been wise to present our need even though we did not expect it to be met immediately. It is interesting to observe that those fields of our Mission in Assam which have been especially cited as conspicuous examples of the success of Mission work have been manned on about the basis named by the Volunteer movement. Is it unreasonable to think that we would have had a much greater return for our labors on the other fields if they had been so manned?

The question before us at this time is, shall we narrow our territory and concentrate our forces on fewer districts, allowing other Societies to take over certain sections? Or shall we continue to hold on to territory that we cannot possibly work well, if we work it at all? Action on this matter at this time is rendered especially urgent in view of the Board's request that we consider curtailment in some phases of our work.

6. GRANT-IN-AID CONFERENCE.—The report on this was printed and is supposed to be in the hands of each of you. To those who were hoping that there might be some course on which all of the Missions in India could agree—or at least on which their representatives could agree—the Conference was a disappointment. From a financial point of view, most of us will agree that it is fortunate that the Grants-In-Aid have not yet been given up.

As has been stated, other matters needing comment will received attention in connection with the agenda.

I wish again, at the close of another year, to thank you, my fellow workers, for your sympathetic support.

As we meet in this, our twentieth, Conference session may He who is ever ready to crown the year with His abundant goodness and mercy, be with us in power. And may the year that we are about to enter be filled with His richest blessing.

Respectfully submitted,

Sd. A. J. Tuttle.

## XXV. Social Service

## XXVI. Woman's Work, General.

The Chairman of the Woman's Committee, Miss Geisenhener, made the following report.

The above Committee met October 10th and 11th, prior to the last meeting of the Reference Committee. The Chief purpose of its meeting was to consider the best means of meeting the 25 per cent cut in our budget. We found this to be no small task.

At that time the Nowgong Girl's School medical budget was reviewed. Recommendations of possible reduction in some of the items were made.

The matter presented by the Inspectress of Schools, Assam, of locating lady evangelists in Dibrugarh, who would also superintend hostels for girls attending the Government Girl's High School there, seemed impossible of favourable consideration due to the shortage of workers and funds and the understaffed condition of our evangelistic work in established fields. The Committee recognize the opportunity of splendid service and regret their inability to comply with the proposal.

The requests of North Lakhimpur, Kohima and Manipur for lady missionaries met with sympathetic consideration, but action was deferred. The Committee desire to know the wish of Conference concerning designation of Woman's Society missionaries to stations where for some years to come probably only one single woman missionary can be supplied.

One missionary evangelist, Miss Christenson, has been added to our forces this year, for whom we are truly thankful. She has been located at Golaghat for language study, designation to be made after she passes her language examinations.

It was voted that a *resume* of our needs, approved proposals and present progress of work be reviewed in the report to Conference and through Conference to the Needs Committee in order that our needs may again be put before the Board.

ACCORDINGLY WE PRESENT THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

**Tura.** The ladies bungalow at Tura is nearly completed. The most immediate need is the erection of the school building. As yet nothing more than the grading of the grounds and the

collection of some of the lumber has been done. This should be one of the first things to receive attention as the present school building is entirely inadequate to the proper conduct of the school. The kindergarten of fifty children is meeting in a native dwelling house. Other most urgent needs are a water plant and a fence for the entire compound. To provide for these needs an appropriation of Rs. 16,192-0-0 is necessary.

**Gauhati.** At Satri Bari the motor cars and trailers have been given and are greatly appreciated. They facilitate the work greatly.

The completion of one large class room and an office, and a permanent roof on one of the cottages, made possible by gifts and specific donations, has relieved the congested conditions both in the school and in the boarding department.

Money for the Widows' Home and Orphanage, a memorial to Mrs. Reeder, has been received. One cottage and cook house will soon be ready for occupation. Two widows and an orphan are already on the spot and several others are waiting the opening day. The outlook is exceedingly hopeful for a large service for the Master in this field.

The first installment of money for the erection of the Woman's Hospital has come. The ground cleared and several loads of brick indicate that our hopes for help for sick women and children of the Assam Valley will be realized in the near future. One nurse, Miss Marvin, has finished her first language examination and is working hard on the second. Miss Stever has expressed her willingness to come to the plains to work in this hospital also. She will come as soon as arrangements can permit her to leave the hills. Certainly the most imminent need in the entire field is the lady doctor for this hospital.

**Nowgong.** At Nowgong a commodious bungalow for five ladies and some administration work is nearing completion. The day is in sight when the frescoed walls and the gaping floors will cease from labour. The school is greatly handicapped by insufficient school room accommodations. The school is suffering because the Board has not yet been able to respond favourably to the recommendation of our Conference at its 17th session, that funds be made available for the extension of the school building. This is the case in spite of the fact that each succeeding session of Conference has emphasized this need, which annually grows more acute.

**Golaghat.** At Golaghat the new bungalow, which is at this time being occupied temporarily by rows and rows of *missahibs* attending Conference, will soon be finished and the ladies happy to have their own home. The teachers will also rejoice to have their own housing quarters. The urgent needs here are the



permanent school building and permanent cook houses for the cottages. The estimates for these are shown in the report of the Conference held at Gauhati, November 3-11, 1920. (See p. 31 of that Conference Report.) The Rs. 8,000-0-0 given in the Needs Report are to apply on the Rs. 25,800-0-0 there mentioned.

The Gale Memorial Bible School has recently been given a motor for its work. This will be a great saver of time and energy and will facilitate the evangelistic work.

The Committee on the site of the Gale Memorial Bible School recommends the purchase of the former medical compound and buildings in Jorhat, known as the "Kirby compound," as in every way suitable for the Bible School.

We have the promise of only one new recruit for next year. The Board have requested us to let them know at an early date for what work she shall be. The missionaries of the W. A. B. F. M. S. have unanimously agreed that she shall be the doctor for the Woman's Hospital at Gauhati, a physician and surgeon fully trained. We would urge that she be given a special course in tropical medicine before coming to us this autumn. We suggest Miss Molly Stephen, of Aberdeen Scotland, daughter of our Rev. and Mrs. A. E. Stephen of Gauhati, who was born in Assam and has been closely connected with foreign missions all her life, as a possible appointee to this place. Finally, for the action of Conference we recommend.

(1) The completion of the Woman's Society plants at Tura and Golaghat, and the extension of the school building at Nowgong.

(2) That Conference appoint a Committee to carry out the transfer of the General Society's property known as the "Kirby property" to the Woman's Society for the Gale Memorial Bible School.

(3) That the Board treat as very urgent the appointment of the Lady Doctor to the Woman's Hospital at Gauhati.

The recommendations of the report were considered separately. (See *XVII Medical*, Cases 2551 and 2552-22 Conf., *XIX Case* 2562-22 Conf., *Needs*, *XXI Case* 2566-22 Conf., *Property Matters*.)

## XXVII. Miscellaneous.

### Case 2573-22 Conf. Use of Timbers from Bronson Bungalow.

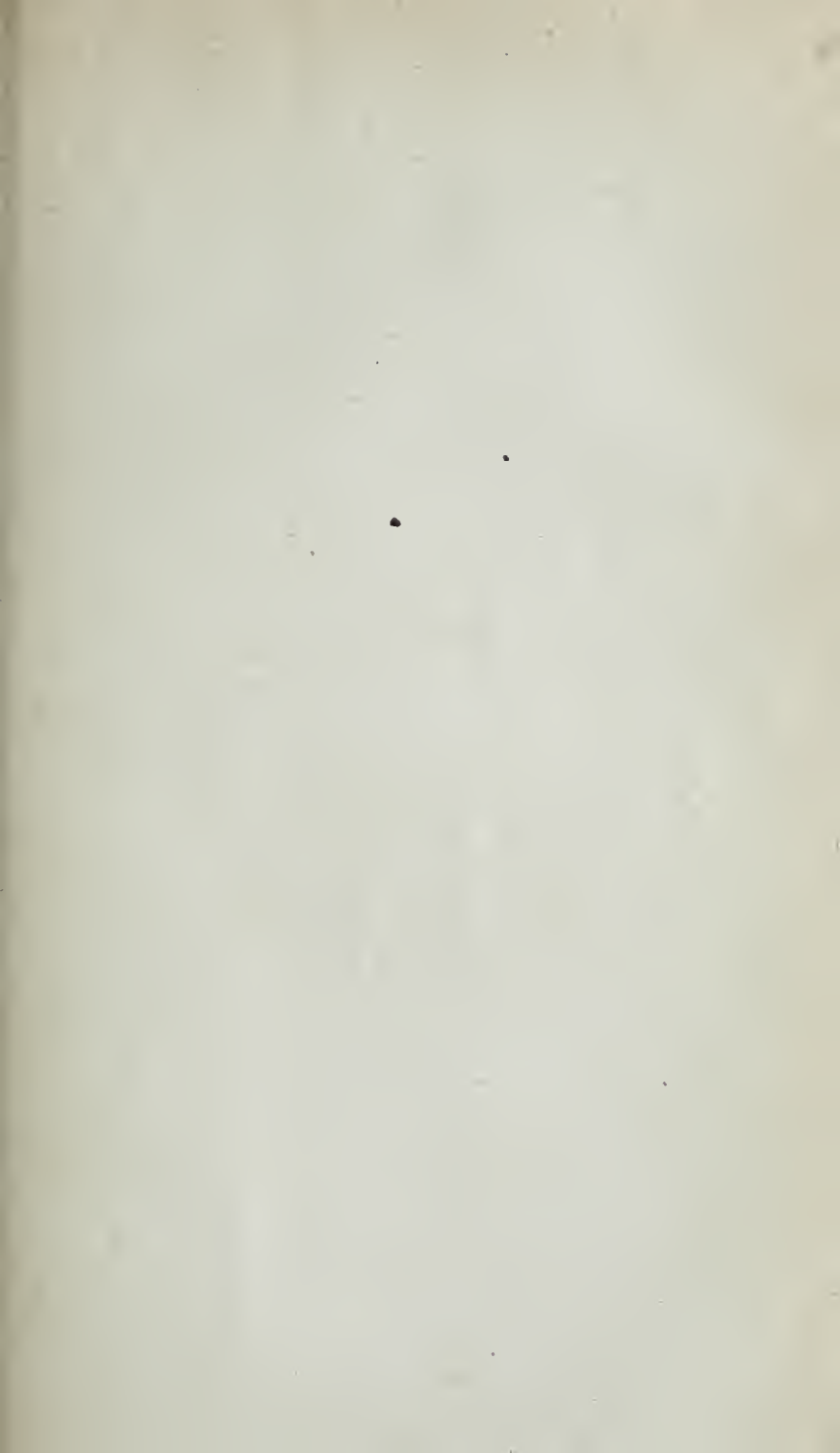
Inasmuch as the bungalow at Nowgong at present occupied by the ladies was built by our honoured Dr. Bronson and is the oldest bungalow in our Mission

RESOLVED: That when it is dismantled some lumber be reserved for making furniture, a gavel for the use of the President of our Conference, book ends, paper weights, etc.



### Messages of Condolence and Greetings

At the suggestion of the President it was voted to send telegrams of condolence and sympathy to Dr. and Mrs. Bailey and to Dr. Crozier because of illness in their families. Later, upon receipt of a letter of "Christian Greetings" from Mrs Crozier it was voted to send similar greetings to her, Mrs. Witter being appointed to write the letter. Mr. and Mrs. Pettigrew were requested to carry to Dr. and Mrs. Rivenburg a message of love and best wishes from the Conference. Other messages were received from Mr. and Mrs. William Dring, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Mason and Mrs. E. G. Phillips, and the following were appointed to write letters in reply: To Mr. and Mrs. Dring, Mrs. Mason; Mr. and Mrs. Mason and Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Tuttle. Dr. Witter was requested to write to Mr. and Mrs. Tilden.



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